

REMARKS

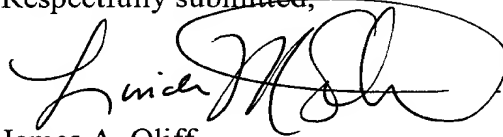
Claims 2, 3, 5-8, 10-12, 14-34, 36 and 38-48 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 2 and 10 are amended, and claims 1, 4, 9, 13, 35 and 37 are canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. No new matter is added. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Regarding the outstanding rejection of claims 1-48 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,892,900 to Ginter et al., the August 28, 2006 Decision on Appeal affirms the rejection of claims 1-3, 5-12, 14, 15 and 35-38 and reverses the rejection of claims 4, 13, 16-34 and 39-48. By this Amendment, claims 1, 4, 9, 13, 35 and 37 are canceled, and the subject matter of claims 4 and 13 are incorporated into claims 2 and 10. Claims 3, 5-8, 11, 12, 14, 15, 36 and 38 depend from amended claims 2 and 10, respectively. Therefore, claims 2, 3, 5-8, 10-12, 14-34, 36 and 38-48 are allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the application are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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